



For immediate release

Indiana Recognized as National Leader for Green Prisons

Indianapolis, IN (December 19, 2014) – The Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) is widely recognized as a national leader for sustainable practices, programs and construction in corrections. Continuing that distinction, the IDOC and the Branchville Correctional Facility were recently honored with an award from the National Institute of Corrections' (NIC) Green Corrections Challenge.

The Green Corrections Challenge is a national competition that promotes innovative solutions and green practices throughout the nation's prisons, jails and community corrections facilities. Through the challenge, citizens, students, and professionals in criminal justice were called on to submit presentations related to being green in corrections. The IDOC's submission, "Green and Giving Back", won the New Corrections Concept category. The presentation highlighted energy efficiency and cost savings projects the Department has implemented at Branchville over the last few years in partnership with Johnson Controls. These upgrades and others at facilities across the state were done through an energy savings performance contract that included \$64.5 million in energy-efficient upgrades and repairs and is projected to save \$90 million over 10 years.

Some of the innovative solutions at Branchville include: replacement and retro fitting of nearly all the lighting fixtures in the facility, installation of five biomass boilers to heat housing units, installation of low flow devices to decrease water misuse, installation of solar panels atop the facility's kitchen to assist in heating the water supply, and renovation of the laundry facility with higher efficiency washing machines and dryers and an ozone injection system. Branchville is also the first correctional facility in the state to utilize a Geo Thermal heating and cooling system. After all of these projects were implemented, the annual utility cost at the facility dropped by 66%.

"Sustainability makes sense for corrections," stated IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon. "Our staff and offenders have embraced our energy conservation efforts, leading to a culture of environmental and fiscal responsibility. It's staggering to think of the millions of dollars in facility upgrades and energy improvements that have been made statewide without using taxpayer dollars."

Winners were announced at the Green Corrections Symposium in Washington D.S. on November 21, 2014. The Green Corrections Symposium brings together agency experts and national stakeholders to share best practices and learn about innovations from the field. Corrections professionals were able to view the winning presentations at the symposium and will have another opportunity during a webinar scheduled in the coming months.

For more information on the Johnson Controls project visit www.johnsoncontrols.com/idoc

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